Claims

1. Covering (2) for arranging on a ground surface (1), in particular a floor, comprising:

at least two parallel form-retaining covering parts (4) which are mutually connected along adjacent side edges (5,6) and which have a backing side (13) directed toward the ground surface (1) and a visual side (14) remote therefrom, wherein the two side edges (5,6) take a step-like form with an inner (5i,6i) and an outer (5o,6o) edge segment such that the first covering part (4) has a protruding backing side (13) and the second covering part (4) has an overhanging visual side (14),

which covering parts (4) are provided with co-acting coupling elements (9,10) placed along the side edges (5,6), wherein the coupling element (9) of the first covering part (4) is a groove which is formed in the protruding backing side (13) and at least open to the visual side (14), and the coupling element (10) of the second covering part (4) forms a tongue extending from the overhanging visual side (14) at least to the ground surface (1), which groove (9) and tongue (10) each have an at least partly curved profile, and wherein the groove (9) undercuts the inner edge segment (5i) of the first covering part (4) and the tongue (10) protrudes beyond the outer edge segment (6o) of the second covering part (4),

characterized in that the undercut (21) of the groove (9) and the part (22) of the tongue (10) protruding beyond the edge (6o) each have an at least partly chamfered profile.

2. Covering (2) as claimed in claim 1, **characterized in that** the inner edge segment (5i) of the first covering part (4) and the outer edge segment (6o) of the second covering part (4) run substantially transversely of the visual side (14) of the relevant covering part (4).

3. Covering (2) as claimed in claim 1 or 2, **characterized in that** the groove (9) and the tongue (10) each form profiles complementary to at least one of the associated edge segments (5i,6o) whereby a form-fitting connection between the covering parts (4) can be realized.

4. Covering (2) as claimed in any of the foregoing claims, **characterized in that** the at least partly curved profile preferably forms a segment of a circle.

5. Covering (2) as claimed in any of the foregoing claims or the preamble of claim 1, **characterized in that** the other edge segments (5o,6i) define a gap (24) in the mutually connected position of the covering parts (4).

6. Covering (2) as claimed in any of the foregoing claims, **characterized in that** a chamfered surface (23) is defined between the visual side (14) and the side edge (5,6) of at least one of the covering parts (4).

7. Covering (2) as claimed in any of the foregoing claims, **characterized in that** each covering part (4) has two parallel step-like side edges (5,6), the one (5) of which is embodied with the protruding backing side (13) with groove (9), and the other (6) with the overhanging visual side (14) with tongue (10).

8. Covering (2) as claimed in claim 7, **characterized in that** each covering part (4) has two mutually parallel end edges (7,8) which enclose an angle with the side edges (5,6) and which are provided with secondary coupling elements (11,12).

9. Covering (2) as claimed in claim 8, **characterized in that** the two end edges (7,8) also take a step-like form such that the one covering part (4) has a protruding backing side (13) and the other covering part (4) has an overhanging visual side (14), the secondary coupling element (11) of the one covering part (4) is a recess formed on the top of the

protruding backing side (13), and the secondary coupling element (12) of the other covering part (4) is a protrusion formed under the overhanging visual side (14).

10. Covering (2) as claimed in any of the foregoing claims or the preamble of claim 1, wherein each covering part (4) is constructed from a relatively thick base layer (15) forming the backing side and, connected thereto, a top layer (16) forming the visual side (14), and the coupling elements (9,10,11,12) are formed in the base layer (15), **characterized in that** the top layer (16) is formed from a high-quality material, in particular a high-grade type of wood.

11. Covering (2) as claimed in claim 10, **characterized in that** the top layer (16) has a thickness of at least 1 mm, preferably at least 2.5 mm and most preferably in the order of 4 mm.

12. Covering part (4) evidently intended for use in a covering (4) as claimed in any of the foregoing claims.

13. Method for mutually connecting at least two covering parts (4) as claimed in claim 12, at least one (4) of which is already arranged on a ground surface (1), comprising the steps of:

a) orienting a side edge (6) of the second covering part (4) for connecting to the first, already arranged covering part (4) substantially parallel to a free side edge (5) of the first covering part (4),

b) moving the second covering part (4) at a distance above the ground surface (1) to the side edge (5) of the first covering part (4),

c) rotating the second covering part (4) about an axis parallel to the side edge (6) thereof,

d) placing the tongue (10) of the second covering part (4) at an angle into the groove (9) of the first covering part (4), and

e) with forming of the connection, lowering the second covering part (4) onto the ground surface (1) by rotating it in the opposite direction.

14. Method as claimed in claim 13, **characterized in that** after connection thereof the second covering part (4) is displaced parallel to the side edge (5,6) relative to the first covering part (4).

15. Method as claimed in claim 13 or 14, **characterized in that** after the first and second covering parts (4) have been mutually connected a third covering part (4) is arranged in line with the second covering part (4), which third covering part (4) is attached by connecting a side edge (6) thereof to the first covering part (4), and an end edge (8) thereof to the second covering part (4).